Equal Rights

VOL. XVI, No. 21
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
JUNE 7, 1930

Times Wide World

Mme. Sarojini Naidu

Noted Hindu poet and public speaker, who has been chosen to wear the mantle of Mahatma Gandhi as leader of the civil disobedience campaign in India. Mme. Naidu is a firm believer in Equal Rights and is one of the outstanding Feminist leaders of the Orient.

Equal Rights

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of the
National Woman's Party
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Washington, D. C.
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Published Weekly
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Baltimore, Md.
Phone, Vernon 3279

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Entered as second-class matter at Postoffice, Baltimore, Md., under Act March 3, 1879.

Subscription, $2.00 a Year
Foreign Subscription, $2.50

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution No. 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929, by Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House April 25, 1929, by Representative Frederick W. Magrady Pennsylvania.

Suppose She Had Been Protected

THE *Associated Press* reports that on May 24 "A slight 23-year-old English woman, dressed in khaki shirt and shorts with a green sun helmet, stepped from a diminutive moth monoplane in Port Darwin, finishing the last lap of the first solo flight made by a woman from England to Australia.

"Amy Johnson made the long and perilous trip in nineteen days. She really required twenty flying days, but gained eight hours against English summer time in the journey eastward.

"Browned by the sun and deafened by the roar of her motor, the blond young Briton made a spectacular landing to be greeted by a huge and cheering crowd. The news of her safe arrival was even broadcast by radio."

The report goes on to say that Miss Johnson was tired, but that did not prevent her later attending a civic reception.

"Great cheers," runs the story, "greeted her as, still clad in her simple flying garb, she stepped forward to respond to speeches of welcome. In a brief talk she proved herself as able an orator as a flyer, and she thanked everybody for the 'marvelous welcome.'"

But suppose Miss Johnson for the racial welfare had been "protected"? Would anyone believe that a woman could do what she has done?

Of course not; which leads us to thank Heaven that in the air, if not on terra firma, women have Equal Rights with men.

In Letters of Fire

WITH the Nationalist uprising in India assuming ever greater proportions, the fact that the revolutionary forces are now led by a woman acquires increased significance. Whatever may be one's sympathies as between the followers of Mahatma Gandhi and the leaders of the British Government, Feminists the world over must be stirred by the thought that a woman, Mme. Sarojini Naidu, is leading the people of her country in what they at least believe to be a supreme struggle for liberty and independence.

Following the arrest and imprisonment of Mahatma Gandhi, after the first salt raids, and the subsequent arrest of Abbas Tyabji, Mme. Naidu was called to the command. In addition to being president of the Indian National Congress, which is one of the most important posts in Indian politics, Mme. Naidu is a poet, playwright, reformer, teacher and social worker.

Many things have happened to Hindu society and Hindu womanhood in the last two decades and Mme. Naidu's life offers the best explanation of these changes.

The position of women in India, due largely to the custom of child-marriage and the Purdah, or the veil, has been one of extreme oppression. But the recent outcry against both these customs is being translated into action by women who believe in Mme. Naidu's ideals.

The Feminist movement, of which Mme. Naidu is both sponsor and leader, is not alone supported by intelligent commoners of high caste. Princesses, rulers over large kingdoms, have taken up the cause. The Begum of Bophal, who was president of the All-India Women's Congress of Delhi in 1928, was throughout her life actively interested in the Feminist movement. The Maharanee of Cochin is another of Mme. Naidu's ardent followers.

In her character Mme. Naidu is said to combine all of the qualities essential to leadership. As a politician she can be stern and strategically-minded, issuing ultimatums to the British rulers, demanding Swaraj for her followers, and leading women's deputations for equal suffrage. But in her poems, where her personality is most fully expressed, one finds only love for the beautiful in nature and in humanity.

At the age of eleven Mme. Naidu's career as a poet began, and at the age of twelve she passed the matriculation examinations of Madras University and was ready for college. At sixteen she sailed for England alone, only to be told by the authorities at Cambridge that she must wait two years for admission on account of her youth. Upon her return to her home in Hyderabad she shocked her family and friends by marrying a man who was not a Brahmin, thus breaking a century-old tradition.

Mme. Naidu's whole life has been spent in breaking traditions, but only such traditions as hamper the development and destroy the happiness of the human race.

She now declares that the time has come when the ideals of Indian womanhood shall be "set in letters of fire against a sky that will not blot out the flame."

House of Representatives on Record

THE House of Representatives went on record on May 22 as favoring equality in nationality laws as between men and women, without making an exception.

The step which it should promptly take is to carry out its convictions and amend the law of this country so as to establish full equality between men and women in the laws governing the vastly and intimately important question of nationality rights.

After a two-hour debate on May 21, the House of Representatives by a roll-call vote of 233 to 15 ordered "the previous question," which closed debate on the resolution introduced by Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr., of New York, commending the action of the United States delegation at the International Conference on the Codification of International Law in voting against the convention containing discriminations against women and expressing the will of Congress that nationality laws and international agreements should be founded on the principle of equality.

This resolution reads:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress of the United States of America expresses its approval of the action of the United States delegation at The Hague Conference of 1930 on the Codification of International Law in voting against the 'Convention on certain questions relating to the conflict of Nationality Laws.'

"Resolved further, That it is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States of America that there should be absolute equality for both sexes in nationality and that in the treaties, law, and practice of the United States relating to nationality there should be no distinction based on sex."

The following day, a motion was made to recommit the resolution to the Committee on Foreign Affairs ,which had made a unanimous favorable report on it, with instructions to eliminate the section commending the delegation at The Hague. This was defeated by a teller vote of 64 for the motion to 91 against. The roll had been called to be sure that a quorum was present when the vote was taken, and the resolution was then passed by a *viva voce* vote.

Several congressmen who voted against ordering the "previous question" voted for the resolution on final passage, having voted against closing debate solely because they had not read the convention adopted at The Hague against which the United States voted and on account of which the United States delegation refused to sign the convention. As the entire convention was published in the *Congressional Record,* they had opportunity to read it before the final vote was taken.

Representative Henry W. Temple of Pennsylvania, acting chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, called the resolution up and Representative Fish made the first speech in favor of its adoption, saying in part:

"The purpose of the Conference at The Hague was to recodify international law. That conference took up the question of nationality, and proposed to write into the proposed world code certain inequalities with reference to nationality in contravention to the well-understood principle of the American Government, as developed and formulated by the United States, that there should be no discrimination or distinctions based on sex in nationality.

"In other words, the Old World wanted to continue their principles and their practices and write them into international law, which would be the world code for generations to come.

"Our delegation, headed by Mr. Miller, opposed these inequalities throughout, but was voted down by a vote of 40 to 1 on the adoption of the convention. It seems to me to be a question of calling upon the New World to redress the wrongs of the Old. Our delegates stood up in that conference, in spite of overwhelming opposition, and opposed these inequalities based on sex and refused to support or sign the convention.

"It is the purpose of this resolution to indorse the action of our delegates and to uphold the principle of equality in reference to nationality, and also to make clear the declared policy of the United States of America that there should be absolute equality to both sexes in nationality and that in the treaties and laws of the United States relating to nationality there should be no distinction based on sex.

"Two different hearings were held before the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Leaders of various women's groups throughout the country appeared, and I am happy to say that they were unanimous, which is not always the case with women any more than with men on different important issues pending before the country, particularly such an important one as this; but all groups of women through their leaders approved this resolution as reported unanimously by the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

"Representative Cable, who is the leader for this kind of legislation in the House, appeared before the committee and indorsed the resolution most emphatically. Prof. James Brown Scott, who was head of the American Institute on International Law, appeared and spoke in favor of the resolution without any change or amendment.

"The resolution comes to you with the unanimous report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and of all groups of women, not only in the National Woman's Party but all the different groups of women throughout the country, backed by a unanimous report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs after careful consideration based on the open hearings before the committee."

Representative Albert Johnson of Washington objected on the grounds that the resolution would have the effect of undertaking to direct the action of other countries, and Representative Fish replied that it was designed to uphold the hands of the United States delegation and to attempt to prevent the Old World from writing into international law inequalities against women.

REPRESENTATIVE RUTH BRYAN OWEN of Florida, who has suffered because of unequal nationality laws, spoke next for the resolution, saying:

"Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen, I am very glad to have the opportunity of saying a word in approval of this bill; first, because this bill bears a direct relationship to a problem which has been very close to my own experience, and, secondly, because it deals with an underlying principle which is a matter of vital interest to the women of the United States.

"Those of you who are familiar with the details of my own election contest know that it was possible to contest the right of a woman born in the United States of American parentage, with a family-line so directly American that it includes 11 ancestors under arms in the Revolution, to occupy a seat in this body on the ground that she had not been sufficiently long an American citizen to entitle her to that right.

"Because of that recent experience of my own, the nationality laws of our country are a matter of deep personal concern. But if this matter was one of concern to myself alone I should not feel that I had the right to address you. The principle approved in this resolution, that our country should recognize no sex discrimination in the matter of nationality, is one which this Congress itself has approved by its own action, one which both of the great political parties of our country have approved by their own statements, and one which was being tested when the American Representatives at The Hague were asked to take part in

signing a code which was not in accord with these principles.

"In order that they should accurately represent the feeling of our Nation as expressed in the laws of Congress, and as affirmed by the statement of our political parties, and as implied in the sentiment of the people of our country, our American representatives took a stand alone against the other nations. The nationality laws in the world now in regard to women are in a fluid state. There is an extraordinary range of differing laws. If you study the nationality laws of the different nations of the world you will find that in some 13 nations men and women have exactly the same nationality rights under the laws of their countries. In several other nations they approximate equality. In still other nations as soon as a woman marries her nationality is lost. There is no recognition of the dignity and individuality of her citizenship. It has been recognized that it is desirable that there should be some degree of conformity between the nations on this subject.

"This conference called at The Hague had for one of its major purposes the codification of these nationality laws. It has been recognized that little by little we must approximate international understanding and agreement. When our representatives went to The Hague and saw that the codification of these laws was crystallizing in a form which was unjust toward the nationality of women the American representatives stood aside and refused to sign the convention. They took a stand in favor of the view of the new world as against the old view, and we are asking Congress to recognize their action with approval and to express by resolution what has already been implied by legislation passed in Congress.

"I feel that if this is an unprecedented action it is warranted by the importance of the underlying principle."

In response to a question from Representative C. William Ramseyer of Iowa as to whether it would not be better to accept the present codification and try later to amend the inequalities out of it, Representative Owen said:

"May I answer the gentleman by a question? If you were asked to surrender the dignity of your own citizenship in order to get some compromise, would you be willing to accept less than a complete right to hold your American inviolate?

"Nationality is a sacred possession, equally sacred to men and to women. Our American nationality was purchased for us by the sacrifice of our forefathers. It has been safeguarded by the devotion of our citizenry, both in war and in peace; and as the American woman has borne uncomplainingly her share in the privations of pioneering, as by her example and precept in the home and in the school she has helped to shape the patriotic ideals of our people, as she has borne her share of the burden in time of war, both by her personal service and by the gift of that which is dearer to her than life itself, the child she has borne and raised to manhood, it is fitting that the Government of our country should have recognized by its law the right of the American woman to the same dignity and individuality of citizenship which has always been accorded the American man. In declaring as a national policy this fundamental principle which has been recognized by our law, the United States of America holds aloft a sure light which will give hope and courage to all women." (Applause.)

AMONG those who spoke briefly for the resolution or asked questions showing their sympathy with it were Representatives Henry Allen Cooper of Wisconsin, R. Walton Moore of Virginia, Henry W. Temple of Pennsylvania, Fiorello La Guardia of New York, and Charles O'Connor of Oklahoma. Among those who opposed it, in addition to Representative Johnson, on the grounds that the House should not vote to approve or disapprove action concerning treaties, were: Representatives William H. Stafford of Wisconsin, Carl R. Chindblom of Illinois, and David J. O'Connell of New York. Representative O'Connell sought to block consideration of the resolution by making the point of order that the resolution contained the work "treaties" and the House had no jurisdiction over treaties. Speaker Nicholas Longworth refused to rule on this point of order, as it was made too late to be parliamentary.

Representative O'Connor of Oklahoma concluded the debate on a humorous but sapient note with the following words:

"Mr. Speaker, I want to repeat the observation that has just been made as to how this will be construed if the resolution is voted down.

"These gentlemen opposing the resolution say they are in favor of the second section, which declares a policy, but they want to knock out the first section, which is simply an indorsement of that policy, which was carried out by our delegates over there. I think if the gentlewoman from Florida had been there as one of the delegates, we might have had better luck.

"Columbus is about the only one who ever discovered America. Some of these other people over there are going to have to discover America. The real thing that is involved in this resolution is the onward march to freedom of womankind to full and equal treatment as individual citizens, and it is going to go on to fulfillment, and one of these days the men will be in here asking for legislation to give us Equal Rights and will want the help of the gentlewoman from Florida." (Laughter and applause.)

THE resolution was then sent to the Senate where it was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Most of the members of this committee went on record in favor of equality in nationality laws, both national and international, during the conference at The Hague. The chief difficulty with getting action from this committee will be due to the fact that it is very busy holding hearings on the London naval limitation treaty now.

Mrs. Max Rotter of Wisconsin, who led the fight for the adoption of the Fish resolution, sat in the House galleries throughout the debate and the voting, accompanied by other women interested in seeing that Congress shall go on record as favoring equality in nationality laws and treaties.

The Status of Women As Jurors

ARTICLE III.

The Intentional Exclusion of an Eligible Class from Jury Service

By Burnita Shelton Matthews

THE effect of the intentional exclusion of an eligible class from jury service has been considered in a number of cases. A recent Minnesota decision involves the intentional exclusion of eligible women. The attorney for Renville County recommended to the County Board that the names of women be omitted from the jury lists for 1927 since he did not believe that women would wish to sit as jurors in cases to be tried at the May term involving sex offenses. The County Board adopted the recommendation. The lists were then made up, naming men only. Irene Passer, a legal voter, applied for a writ requiring the board to cancel the lists and prepare new ones. The case finally reached the State Supreme Court. Although the court stated that "in the selection of jurors to pass upon the liberty and property of women as well as men, there must be no discrimination against women" and that the County Board's action "was not a proper exercise of discretion," yet the decision did not require the preparation of new lists. In effect, the holding was that only a person whose interests are affected, such as a person being tried, may compel the making up of new jury lists without discriminating against an eligible class; that if the person being tried has complaint, he or she may "move

to quash the panel"; and that a woman who has no other interest than that of one eligible for such service cannot act to reform the discriminatory jury lists.[1]

A California case involves the intentional exclusion of eligible men. A woman convicted of forgery by an all-woman jury urged reversal of the judgment on the ground that the sheriff omitted to draw the jury from the whole body of the county and confined himself to a certain class, "namely, women; that in so doing the sheriff * * * was biased and prejudiced." The sheriff asserted that his reason for omitting men was that the county had no accommodations for keeping a mixed jury over night; that a mixed jury "would not be wise, provided they were held over and they had night sessions" and that he had no prejudice against the defendant and in summoning the jury did not omit men in order to secure a jury that would convict her. The court upheld the judgment of conviction, saying:

"Considered as jurors, the law makes no distinction between men and women. Subject to qualifications applicable alike to each, they are equally competent to act as jurors. Hence it cannot be said that the sheriff, in summoning all women, confined himself to a certain class as distinguished from another class, any more than had he summoned all men, or a mixed jury composed of a greater number of either sex than the other."[2]

[1]State Ex. Rel. Passer v. Renville County Board, 171 Minn. 177.

[2]People v. Manuel, 41 Cal. App. 153.

Maryland Branch Holds Annual Meeting

By Florence Elizabeth Kennard,
Executive Secretary of the Maryland Branch of the National Woman's Party

DAME NATURE is always kind to Maryland when the time for the annual meeting rolls around, always providing the most beautiful day in her May repertoire for the occasion, and Thursday, May 22, was no exception to her generosity.

Mrs. Robert Walker had invited the Maryland Branch to beautiful "Drumquhazel," out near Towson way, in Baltimore County, and there the meeting was held on the grassy sward under the stately trees, one of Maryland's lovely old places, for which she is far famed.

The morning session was given over to routine work—reports from the various departments and plans for the future, with election of officers for the ensuing year.

A dinner meeting the second Tuesday in every month with a prominent speaker will be a new feature of the work of the organization next fall and winter. The season will open with a jury service dinner in October under the skillful management of Mrs. Robert Walker; this will be followed in November, just after the fall elections with "Women in Public Office," with Mrs. Joel Gutman in charge; then in December will come a dinner devoted to our "Legislative Program," with Mrs. Emma Maddox Funck, Maryland's pioneer suffragist, as the chairman.

During winter months the dinner topics will be "Industrial Equality," "Federal Equal Rights" and "International Aspects," with Edith Houghton Hooker, Dr. Grace Hadley Beardsley and Emilie A. Doetsch in charge.

The afternoon session was graced by the presence of Mlle. Fanny Bunand-Sevastos. Maryland always greatly appreciates Mademoiselle's charm and personality, her friendliness and undoubted courage, and as she stood and talked in the artistic setting of trees and sky and the soft green of the lovely lawn, she made indeed a picture never to be forgotten.

During her speech on the proceedings of The Hague Conference her audience was transported across the seas and very real seemed the Peace Palace with the delegates looming large and formidable and the tiny group of women struggling to gain a hearing.

"In 1924," said Mlle. Sevastos, "the League of Nations decided to call a World Conference for the Codification of International Law. Nationality was among the subjects chosen for discussion. Since that time the Committee of Experts of the League of Nations have drawn up proposed drafts which sanctioned the existing laws discriminating against women. Ever since the great international organizations have been making plans to combat this danger. The Inter-American Commission of Women, which, as you know, is a juridical body, charged to safeguard the legal position of women on this hemisphere, undertook a study of the subject of nationality for the same purpose. Alice Paul, as chairman of the Nationality Committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women, began a vast study of the nationality laws of all the countries of the world as they affect women. Her work comprises several volumes. The fruit of this work is contained in the short following lines: 'The contracting parties agree that from the going into effect of this treaty there shall be no distinctions based on sex in their law and practice relating to nationality.' This treaty had been endorsed by the Inter-American Commission of Women at their first conference held in Havana last February. Doris Stevens had been charged by her colleagues of the Americas to lay this treaty before the Codification Conference and to fight against any article concerning the nationality of women, which would contain discriminations based on sex.

"MISS STEVENS and myself have just come from The Hague. The Hague during the last few weeks was the scene of an extremely ardent fight for equality. On one side were the delegates of 45 nations with full powers acting as government representatives. On the other side were the women whose only power was their conviction that their demand was one of justice. Our colleagues were Margaret Whittemore, Ella Riegel, Lucy Branham, from the National Woman's Party, and Helen Archdale from the Six Point Group of England.

"Immediately upon our arrival we decided to chose the Whittebrug Hotel as our headquarters, as we learned it was the center of many delegations and only separated from the Peace Palace by a forest—it was perhaps significant that we had to cross a forest before reaching the Peace Palace. The delegates from Belgium, Great Britain, India, Sweden, Canada, Finland and the United States were staying at the Whittebrug, as well as the Greek delegation with its chief, Mr. Nicolas Politis, who, as chairman of the Nationality Committee, we would have to see often. As a matter of fact we had not been in The Hague two hours when I approached Mr. Politis, who at that time was enjoying his dinner. I asked Mr. Politis to postpone the hearing of the women before the plenary session of the Nationality Committee, which was set for Monday morning. It seemed to us incredible that our nationality was to be rushed through like this, and lastly our Chilean representative, Madame Vergara, had not yet reached The Hague. I had counted naively on the good friendship of my family with Mr. Politis, who had just stood up at my brother's wedding, to move him to a little gentleness. Immediately he was on the defensive and refused to postpone the hearing. This could not be done. The delegates could not be disturbed—their time was too precious and the hearing was only accorded the women as a matter of courtesy. Luckily at this point Miss Stevens, who from her place at the table had been watching the conversation, joined us and with the persistency that you all know assured him it was perfectly possible if he wanted. After much discussion his last words were that if the United States delegation accepted the proposal of the postponement of the hearing during the session of the next morning he would not object, but as we

would not influence one solitary vote, therefore, there was no use in getting up all this trouble.

"After dinner and after our interview with Politis, we were warmly welcomed by the American delegation. All seemed delighted to see us. They had looked for us on the Aquitania on the way over. Most of them we knew personally, as we had been working with them in connection with nationality research at Briarcliff during the session of the Institut de Droit International and in Washington. This enthusiasm did not, however, remain as warm throughout the conference. There were times when they were not at all pleased to see us as our demands became more insistent.

"Next morning Doris Stevens and Mr. Richard Flournoy, delegate of the United States on the nationality commission, went to Politis, saying that the United States delegation accepted to propose the postponement of the hearing. It was approved by the other delegates and the hearing definitely postponed to Tuesday morning.

"MEANWHILE headquarters were opened. A couple of stenographers and typewriters were secured with great difficulty. No one who spoke English and French, and at the same time was able to type speedily, seemed to be available. The stenographers were beginners. A telephone line was established. The silk table covers and all the charming odds and ends found in Dutch homes were removed from the tables. The cupboards were emptied to be filled with papers and documents. In no time the room was turned into a workshop. On a sign nailed on the door one could read the inscription, Inter-American Commission of Women and National Woman's Party. From then on this room was the center of our activities. It was the scene of our struggles during the most difficult and dramatic moments. The press, visitors and delegates would come there daily to be informed of our work.

"During the following forty-eight hours the situation was tragic. We were all working under terrific pressure. Doris Stevens conferred with Miguel Cruchaga, introducer of the resolution of equal nationality rights before the conference. She had to prepare her speech for the hearing and it had to be translated as well. Some were sending out press releases and superintending the printing of the tables showing the position of women in nationality rights. Others were interviewing delegates. Constantly our work would be interrupted by telephone calls or we would have to stop to type or do little things one ought not to have to do when the staff is a well-equipped one, but as I already said, we were only a small group and practically no staff.

"In those short hours which remained before the hearing we had to greet and explain the situation to two new colleagues. Simone Tery, a French girl who came to help us, and Marta Vergara, who arrived the afternoon of the hearing. As a Chilean woman, Chile being one of the countries where women for one century have had equal nationality rights, she was most precious. The American women were only in The Hague for a few hours, but their reputation had preceded them. We were constantly given hints to tone down our speeches, as it was very important not to scare the jurists.

"Tuesday evening came too soon for our wishes, and found us not exactly what one would call ready. We were permitted then to have our first glimpse of the Justice Hall of the Peace Palace, where the sessions of the nationality commission were held. It is a huge room with a large table in the center. On one of the walls a painting showing a woman holding a child on one arm and in the other an olive branch stands as a symbol of justice and peace. As a painter I am constrained to say it is a beautiful painting, but a little conventional, as conventional as the men sitting around the table ready to hear us. Miss Chrystal MacMillan spoke first, representing the International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship. Next Maria Verone, representing the International Council of Women. Margaret Whittemore gave her time to Doris Stevens, as only one hour was accorded to all the women of the world to plead their cause on this important matter. Doris Stevens finally spoke with the magnificent conviction which characterizes her, giving clearly the facts and explaining what women wanted. Her vivid illustration of the imaginative story of 'Samson and Delilah,' which you have all probably read in EQUAL RIGHTS, was greeted most enthusiastically by the delegates. During her speech the dramatic tables drawn up by Alice Paul, showing the position of women regarding nationality in all the countries of the world, were put in front of each delegate and were examined very carefully by them, giving an idea of the vast amount of work women have been doing on this subject. The two other speakers spent most of their time explaining that they knew it was difficult to grant equal nationality rights to women. Doris put all her efforts in showing how easy and simple it was. Madame Vergara brought the testimony of her country. When the hearing adjourned many delegates, some completely unknown to us, congratulated Doris Stevens warmly, and were eager to learn more about our point of view.

"THE next day the first vote on the Four League basis concerning the nationality of women was to be taken. Early in the morning behind the closed doors of the Hall of Justice, while the commission was deliberating in secret, the women were waiting. We had proceeded to the Peace Palace as usual to interview delegates and to try to make them understand that if they could not give us what we wanted we preferred nothing. This seemed difficult for them to believe. I do not know if you realize what work this meant. The delegates of the forty-five countries had to be seen in a few days so as to be effective, as the whole question of woman's nationality had to be voted upon in three days.

"EVEN when the League basis had been voted by a big majority, every day we would be faithfully in the main hall of the Peace Palace at the closed doors of the Hall of Justice, using all our strength of persuasion trying to convince the delegates that our rights are as precious to us as theirs are to them. A final vote had to be taken with all the delegations present, and we decided to fight to the last minute.

"One morning, three days before the end of the conference, when our last hope was to prevent the final vote on the nationality convention, we were stopped by the Dutch police at the iron gates of the Peace Palace. The president of the conference, Mr. Heemskirk, had given the order, saying the women had had a hearing and could no longer disturb the delegates and try to frustrate the work of the conference. They did not understand the difficulties involved in such an undertaking and the gravity of the present hour. This statement was given out by him to the press, and in a letter, which I went to ask for, to us. This order against women was received with great displeasure by the delegates. Some of them with whom we had appointments protested energetically and insisted that we be let in. After standing at the gates for a long while, I was personally escorted to the Palace by a big policeman where I was allowed to have my interview with Mr. Buero of Uruguay, and I was promptly led back to the door by the same policeman. The scene, was of course, a little grotesque and even the funny papers that week took that opportunity to publish a most amusing caricature.

"Then the night of the Ruidersaal of the final vote came. In this vast hall, where knights used to gather in olden days, the plenary sessions of the conference were held. The hall looked most impressive that evening. The wooden arches of the ceiling were all lighted up and the delegates, in evening clothes were sitting in rows before their tables. At one end of the room the Press, and at the other perched in a balcony, a small group of women. All was silent, when suddenly all heads turned toward Mr. David Hunter Miller, who was walking toward the platform. In a short speech, he stated

that on behalf of his Government he would not sign the nationality convention. The women applauded, though violent repeated knocks could be heard from the table of the President. At least all the efforts which had gone in this great undertaking for years, were not entirely lost. The example of the United States in turning down a convention which contained discriminations against sex, will be followed by other countries, who are not as yet enlightened, and still fear the principle of equality. The influence of the United States' attitude was already shown, when out of 40 countries who had voted for it, only 30 signed the nationality convention.

"As a European, I would like to say how it appeared imperative to me that women have power and how handicapped the European women were for lacking that power. I was glad and proud to participate in that historic occasion and I believe that that the next codification conference is bound to bear the fruit of the efforts and work we have all put in this one."

Feminist Notes

Women Win Awards

WOMEN have won several important scholarships and prizes in England recently. Hilda M. Lyon, associate fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, was awarded the prize given annually in memory of the victims of the R-38 airship disaster, this being the first time a woman has won the distinction. The award is for an essay on airships. Miss Lyon has been for five years on the technical staff of the big airship works where the giant R-101 was constructed.

Winifred L. Hackett, 23-year-old student of Birmingham University, beat all the men in the electrical engineering department of the university and won a scholarship entitling her to a year's research work, again being the first woman to win the distinction.

E. E. Verity of Manchester won the Institute of the Motor Trade's gold medal for the best essay on any motoring subject, defeating two men competitors. Again it was the first time a woman had won.

Won't Limit Women Students

THE Students' Representatives' Councils of the four Scottish universities recently defeated a proposal to limit the number of women students admitted to the universities. The vote was 21 to 10.

No Women Judges in France Yet

FRENCH women who had hoped that the current reform of the judiciary in France would bring the admission of women to the judiciary were disappointed, according to press reports. The amendment to the judiciary reorganization bill admitting women to magistrates' positions was defeated by a vote of 378 to 200 in the Chamber of Deputies.

There is hope that a separate bill will be passed opening these positions to women. Raoul Peret, Minister of Justice, pointed out that the whole question of admitting women to the bench is intimately connected with that of the right to vote, which French women are still denied.

There are 220 women lawyers in Paris alone, women having been admitted to the bar for the last twenty-five years.

From Jerusalem comes the news that Rosa Ginsberg has won her fight for admission to practice before the bar. The Supreme Court held that there is nothing in Ottoman law or in legislation since the British occupation to bar women from the practice of law.

Not "Prize Puppies"

JENNY LEE, youngest woman in the British Parliament, resents the fact that women are often singled out as if they were "prize puppies" when they are performing the ordinary duties of citizenship. *The Vote* (England) says that Miss Lee already gives promise of becoming one of England's most effective members of the House of Commons. She is the second Scotswoman elected to Parliament, and is a teacher by profession.

Nurses May Get Retirement

THE House of Representatives has passed the measure providing for the retirement of disabled nurses in the Army and the Navy. At first the bill applied to only the nurses in the Navy, but was amended on the floor to apply to those in the Army also. Both the Army and the Navy opposed the measure, although individual officials said it would increase the efficiency of the corps of nurses.

Woman Elected to Board

A WOMAN has "invaded" the Albany County Board of Supervisors for the first time in the 112 years that the board has been functioning. She is Irene A. Poe, who was elected a supervisor from the first ward in Cohoes, succeeding her father.

Jobs Denied Again

THE owner of mines in Central Australia wished to take some women expert mica workers to his mines, but various organizations protested on the grounds that living conditions were too hard for women in Central Australia, and the Federal Government intervened and prevented the project.

Women Study Diplomacy

THE International College of Politics and Economics in Vienna, which only a few years ago opened its doors to women, now has eleven women students: two Germans, a Yugoslavian, an Englishwoman, a Latvian, an American, a Pole, two Austrians, and two Roumanians.

All Women Officers

YELLVILLE, ARKANSAS, elected nothing but women to its town offices recently. The women's ticket had no opposition.

Can't Join Bowling Club

NO matter how well the women of Edmonton, England, can bowl, they are not permitted to join the bowling club there. It recently refused by a vote of 51 to 4 to admit women, this being the third rejection for the women. Yet a woman, Councillor Ithell, J.P., presides over the authority to whom the bowling greens on which the club play belong. Last year the club refused to play the District Council team because there were women on it, indicating that it is easier for women to get along in politics in England than in sports.

For Equal Jury Service

BELIEVING that women cannot and should not have both Equal Rights and special privileges, the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia has gone on record favoring compulsory jury service for women in the National Capital.

At present women may be excused upon their requests without furnishing any valid reason, such as is demanded of men, for the excuse from service.

Judge Mary O'Toole, Burnita Shelton Matthews, chairman of the Lawyers' Council and a member of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, and Jennie Berliner favored the compulsory service, while Goldie Paregol and Marion Clark spoke against it.

Bulgarian Women Architects

WOMEN won the first, second, and third prizes in a competition for plans for a new administrative building in Kirdjali, Bulgaria, recently. There were twelve competitors. Victoria Anguelova and her colleague, Tchavdar Mountafov, won the first prize. Another woman, Helene Varakadjieva, won both the second and the third prizes in conjunction with two male colleagues.

Women in the Balkans

WOMEN are without political rights in Southeastern Europe, says Anna T. Nilsson of Sweden, writing in *Pax In-*

ternational, organ of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. She continues:

"In Athens, after four years, women are to be allowed to vote for mayor as a first step.

"In Yugoslavia at present there is no parliamentary government, so women there are not specially disfranchised. Even the able Bulgarian women, who have the same position in social life as we Western women, have not the vote."

News from the Field

National Council Summer Plans

THE National Council of the National Woman's Party is planning to hold its summer meetings on Saturdays instead of Fridays, so that government workers in Washington can attend without taking time from their work. Nina Allender and Laura Berrien are two members of the Council who work for Uncle Sam. Government departments do not remain open on Saturday afternoons in the summer.

The next meeting will be held on June 14, and meetings will be held thereafter on the second Saturday of each month.

Miss Paul's Mother Dies

DEATHS in their families took two Feminist leaders from their posts in Washington last week where they were working on the equalization of nationality laws.

Mrs. Tracey Paul, mother of Alice Paul, died at her home in Moorestown, New Jersey, on May 25. Miss Paul had gone to her mother's bedside.

Doris Stevens, chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, was called to Omaha, Nebraska, on account of the death of her father.

Both staunch workers have the profound sympathy of members of the National Woman's Party in their grief.

"An Amiable Fiction"

THE action of the Senate Committee on Immigration in tacking a series of irrevelant amendments to the Cable bill, which removes one discrimination against women in the nationality laws of the United States and facilitates repatriation of women married to aliens, is scored in a letter from Representative Emanuel Celler of New York to the New York Senators, Royal S. Copeland and Robert F. Wagner.

Opposing one of the amendments, Representative Celler said in part:

"I invite your attention to the so-called Cable Bill H. R. 10960, as reported in amended form by the Senate Committee on Immigration. It passed the House as a so-called 'Women's Citizenship Bill.'

"The Senate Committee on Immigration, however, has so materially altered and changed it as to make it quite unidentifiable as a 'Women's Citizenship Bill.' It has inserted many irrelevant and dangerous provisions. One change made by the Senate Committee gives me particular concern. It is Section 11, which amends Section 8 of the Naturalization Law of 1906. . . . .

"Though the bill contains many desirable features, I think it would be much better in the public interest to have it defeated than to have such a serious impediment to naturalization established."

Emma Wold to Be Honor Guest

DR. EMMA WOLD, legislative secretary of the National Woman's Party and technical advisor to the United States delegation at the International Conference on the Codification of International Law, will be the guest of honor at a tea to be given at Alva Belmont House in Washington, D. C., on June 8.

Dr. Wold will tell of the work at The Hague, where the United States delegation stood alone among forty nations in opposing discriminations against women in nationality agreements.

On June 22 a tea will be given, at which a group of university graduates of India will be the honor guests and some of them will speak.

Headquarters Tea

A TEA at which famous old houses were discussed was held at Alva Belmont House, national headquarters of the National Woman's Party, on June 1.

Count Louis de la Bassetierre, great-great-grandson of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, described the plans for the restoration of the old Carroll house as a recreation center.

Marianna Minnegerode Andrews, Washington historian and writer on antiquities, talked on Alva Belmont House, said to be the oldest residence in the National Capital, built by Lord Calvert.

Jury Service Pamphlets

THE pamphlets on jury service written by Burnita Shelton Matthews will be ready for distribution soon. Mrs. Harvey Wiley, chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, is notifying State chairmen that the money for these pamphlets must be in her hands by July 1. The copies cost 3 cents each. The pamphlets are a comprehensive study of the question of equality in jury service. The material in them has been published in a series of articles in EQUAL RIGHTS. The pamphlets are to be used in States where men and women do not enjoy jury service on equal terms.

A New Conference on Nationality

NOW that the International Conference on the Codification of Law has adopted a nationality code containing inequalities as between men and women and unsatisfactory to the United States for this and other reasons, Feminists of the United States are urging the passage of a resolution introduced by Representative John L. Cable of Ohio calling upon the President to invite other nations to participate in a conference solely devoted to the nationality question.

Despite the fact that all the nations represented at The Hague except the United States voted for the convention discriminating against women, at least ten other nations have since refused to sign it and the indications are that these and others will refuse to ratify it.

In view of these facts, it would seem timely to have the United States call a conference to deal with this subject, on which the laws of the various nations disagree so variously, and in which every person has such an intimate and important interest.

The Department of State is being consulted on the project, and members of the congressional committees on foreign affairs are taking the matter up.

Maud Younger, congressional chairman of the National Woman's Party, is urging that Congress take this important step.

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